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WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR

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THE RECIPROCITY TREATY.

The main point which Mr. Irwin raises in connection with the P. C. Jones interview, about the safe tenure of the old Reciprocity treaty, merits further discussion. It is Mr. Irwin's belief that Congress would have retained the treaty so as to hold the islands; and if this position is well taken it deprives Mr. Jones' argument of much of its strength.

But in the Advertiser's view Mr. Irwin underrates the force of the movement, which gathered a vast following in 1897-8, to rescind the measure that gave Hawaiian sugar free entrance to the American market. Mr. Jones has shown that the policy of abrogation was approved by both parties. The Democrats of the Senate were for it almost to a man, Senator Morgan being the only conspicuous opponent of that faith in the upper house. As for the Republican Senators, they caucused on the subject and passed a resolution in favor of the abrogation of the treaty. Here was a condition which the Hawaiian sugar planters rightly looked upon as menacing and which the organs of the sugar trust, notably Mr. Spreckels' Call, naturally interpreted as a sentence of death to the great island industry. And not only the organs of the trust rejoiced, but the beet sugar growers in twenty States and the cane-growers in three—a body exercising great political power under the guidance of the trust—jubilantly declared that the Reciprocity treaty had come to its last days. They were ready to fight it at the first sign of reviving life.

What could have saved the treaty? Mr. Irwin thinks the Government would have preserved the measure so as not to lose its grip on the islands. But why should there have been any such loss? Time was when American supremacy here had been a matter of doubt, but the doubt had gone long before 1898. Treaty or no treaty, when the United States served notice on the powers, particularly on Japan, that Hawaii had been taken within its sphere of influence, American supremacy was fixed beyond the power of local irritation to impair it. The world accepted the new status of the islands and as early as 1895 Great Britain refused to send a warship here to look after the rights of British subjects who had been arrested by the Hawaiian Government for political offenses, saying through its spokesman in the Commons that "the interests of Her Majesty's subjects in Hawaii were safe in the hands of the United States." The point is that Hawaii had gone virtually under an American protectorate and that the abrogation of the Reciprocity treaty could not have changed that status. Having the power and purpose to keep its insular vantage ground, and the assent of the old world chancelleries, the Washington government could not have been rebuffed by dissatisfied planters here. Furthermore, most of the planters would have chosen to bear the ills they had, rather than to fly to others they knew not of. Those who were Americans might have been counted on for loyalty and hope of a reconsideration of their claims at some future time. Those who were not Americans could have made no headway in any scheme to identify Hawaii's interests with those of a European power.

It is the profound conviction of this paper that but for annexation the history of Jamaica would have had its counterpart here—not in all its details but assuredly in loss of prosperity.

Hawaii is not to be congratulated on the kind of representation it is to have on the mainland Republican stump in this campaign. Mr. Stewart, so far as we are aware, represents nobody here. Hawaii has no negro population for him to stand for; the Republicans of his voting district invariably repudiated him until this year when the Governor intervened, out of pity, to get him a show; and as for the Democrats, not even Mr. Stewart's past faithfulness to Tammany Hall has commended him to them. It would have been far better to send a Hawaiian orator like John Gandall or a white one like A. G. M. Robertson or Frank Thompson. We say "send" for the choice of Stewart was made at his own urgent solicitation, through the Governor, whose magnanimity towards the man who wrote the resolution against his appointment, which the Legislature did not pass, must have been stretched to its limit. One could wish that the Governor had stopped to think what the effect must be to have a negro of the voluble Pullman porter type of oratory, parading up and down the mainland as a representative of Hawaii. Thousands of people will jump at the conclusion that our population is of the same class. Assuredly Hawaii has enough obstacles to meet without adding a Senegambian handicap to the reputation of its leading men.

PARKER'S SURRENDER.

Judge Alton B. Parker's acceptance of the nomination for President by the St. Louis Convention has been promiscuously eulogized by the organs of the Democratic party of the United States. It was in fact a judicial review of the national situation, which might have been delivered—in fact in its essence has been delivered—by Mr. Roosevelt. It substantially endorsed the Republican Administration. It caustically antagonized every leading feature in the announced program of W. J. Bryan and made the line of demarcation between American Democracy and Europeanized or Socialized Democracy so clear and so distinct that no intelligent citizen can fail to perceive that the only vital political controversy now pending in the United States is within the Democratic organization and that conservative or American Democrats and the Republican masses are in complete accord.

Judge Parker's speech ought to be generally read and studied and should be printed and circulated as a Republican campaign document, side by side with Mr. Bryan's program and the Chicago and Kansas City platforms. If needed, which it is not, this comparison alone would settle the presidential election. It is in order, in proof of these propositions, briefly and fairly, to present the address of acceptance, point by point. Judge Parker begins by strongly enforcing the mixed interdependence and independence of the three departments of the government and the necessity of upholding the constitution and the laws. The recognition of this necessity has been the keynote to Mr. Roosevelt's administration. The chief reason for his amazing strength among the people, which cannot be affected by party declamation, is his stern and practical determination to disregard threatened political consequences and to secure real as distinguished from euphemistic equality before the law. His action in respect to the official delinquencies and frauds in the Postoffice and in the Land Department, and in various other directions, too numerous to repeat, has been so definite and so unwavering that it has identified him irrevocably with the highest moral attitude known in American history.

Judge Parker does not claim that there has been any intrusion by one department of the government into the specialized functions of either of the other departments, but he vigorously condemns all usurpation, whether official "or by a body of men acting without a commission from the people." This is a direct allusion to the trusts or to capitalistic combinations, which has been uniformly enforced by Mr. Roosevelt, not merely in speech but by his acts, embalmed in the history of the country, and, perhaps most definitely by the successful attack of Attorney-General Knox, with the President's hearty cooperation, upon the great railroad merger.

Judge Parker repudiates proletarianism, which is one of the principal elements in Mr. Bryan's conception of democracy, pointedly rebukes rioters, for the use of dynamite by unionized labor demands "the most vigorous punishment" known to the law, and declares that every citizen has "the right to labor, to acquire and to enjoy property." Here he obviously refers to the labor struggle in Colorado, and, as Republican journals throughout the country have done, he condemns the counter-movement, in which the State and municipal authorities were used in the illegal deportation of obstreperous wage-earners. Once more, by necessary implication, he endorses President Roosevelt, who has equally refused to support the violent demagogism of "walking delegates" or the arbitrary exactions and oppressions of capital, both of which were manifested in the anthracite coal strike in Pennsylvania.

Judge Parker concedes that the alleged inequalities in the existing tariff are acknowledged by leading Republicans, and that they could not be adjusted, in the impossible case of his own election, except through Republican aid, because the Democratic party could not secure control of the Federal Senate during the four years' of his administration. In this connection also, he pledges himself unnecessarily not to be his own successor. The admission is apparent that the tariff, as statesmen and political economists have insisted for years, cannot be converted into a political issue. There are Democratic as well as Republican protectionists—indeed, the most ultra protection ever demanded in our national history was enforced by Democratic votes in Congress, when the Treasury was temporarily compelled to purchase silver at a fixed rate. It is doubtful whether there is an abstract protectionist or free trader in either party, except to a very limited degree among the academicians of both. No citizen, of any political complexion, believes that our manufactured articles should be sold cheaper in foreign countries than in our own. The remedy is simply the readjustment of the tariff by a scientific commission, without reference to party, and this will be done through a Republican Congress, and with the approval of Mr. Roosevelt, who is thus once more substantially endorsed by his opponent.

In respect to the trusts, Judge Parker contends that the common law, enforced by the Supreme Court of the United States, by the Court of Appeals in New York, and by numerous other tribunals elsewhere, "affords a complete legal remedy against monopolies." This is the exact position repeatedly taken on the mainland, and especially in California, by leading men, who ultimately deprived the railroads of their illegal supremacy. It is also the exact position for which the Department of Justice, inspired by Mr. Roosevelt, has secured the highest judicial endorsement.

Judge Parker attributes the acquisition of the Philippines to "the accident of war," avows that "we are not at liberty to disregard the responsibility which then came to us," and vindicates the ultimate right of the Philippines to self-government. Thus he approves the administration of both McKinley and Roosevelt. The great capacity of Mr. Taft, the present Secretary of War, was impressed for years into the public service, with the special object of developing self-government in the Philippine archipelago, and the policy has been steadily, energetically and successfully pursued. No question of imperialism, to which Judge Parker prudently fails to refer, is involved. The government simply dealt with facts as it found them. Some of the most astounding imperialistic visions in the United States have emanated from conspicuous Democrats. Many of the bitterest anti-imperialists are Republicans. The late convention in Boston, which denounced imperialistic tendencies, was composed of representatives of both parties. Neither Mr. McKinley nor Mr. Roosevelt has ever uttered a word or done an act which even tended in the imperialistic direction.

Judge Parker patriotically speaks of his country as having been a world-power for a century, "the free abode of prosperous people advanced in the highest degree in the learning of arts of civilization," and, while opposed to a large standing army, in common with every Republican in the land, unites with all citizens in demanding "such armament as may be necessary for the security of the country." This is in line with the accomplished reduction of the army and the enlargement of the navy, both provided for under Mr. Roosevelt's administration.

It thus appears, fairly and clearly, that Judge Parker, in accepting the nomination, practically and fully sustained Mr. Roosevelt's administration and rebuked not only W. J. Bryan, with his mass of proletarian supporters, but W. R. Hearst, whose specialty is the advocacy of insubordinate labor combinations. More than half of the Democratic voters of the United States cannot stand by the views of their nominee, either as expressed or withheld. The case is one of a respectable American candidate, not in harmony with the platform and positively inimical to a majority of the voters within the political organization to which he is nominally attached, themselves divided into hostile factions. Mr. Roosevelt is backed by his own conduct, in high official station, by a united party, and by the moral sense and business aspirations of his countrymen, apart from politics. His election is a certainty. It is to the credit of Judge Parker that his own views mainly coincide with the Republican platform and will be carried out in the future, as they have been in the past, by a Republican President.

It is important for the citizens of Hawaii to realize the facts as they are and that it is their interest to retain their identification with the Republican party.

The death of Mrs. Sybil Augusta Carter, which occurred last night, removed a woman who had held one of the highest places in the best social life of these islands. A daughter of Dr. Judd, the most distinguished of the original missionaries; wife of Hon. H. A. P. Carter, Hawaii's Minister to Washington and a stirring man of affairs; sister of the late Chief Justice Judd and the mother of the present Governor of Hawaii, she had lived her life among makers of history. Before sickness forced her into retirement she was the center of a cultivated hospitality which not only her own townspeople but eminent visitors from all over the world enjoyed. Her life linked the old regime with the new; her death recalls a long and striking period of Hawaiian progress "all of which she saw and part of which she was."

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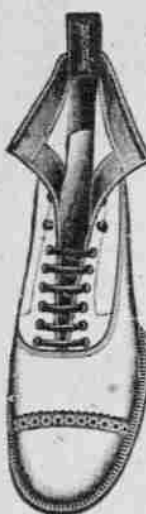
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